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(2) Caes B G V, 2: *paucis diebus*=in not more than a few days, although the modifier of *abesse* is *multum* not *plus* or *amplius*. So Suet Cal 22, quoted by Peters, "nec multum a fuit quin *statim* diadema sumeret"="not further off than immediately" or "in a little less time than no time at all".

(3) In these expressions, the whole introductory clause is only a general modifier of what is logically the main action, while the specific definition of that main action is attached immediately to it, so that the general modifier reaches the main action only through the specific modifier, so that *non multum abesse* quin=not more than or the like; *non multum abesse ab eo*=not far short of this.

(4) Our critic's fundamental principle of language" seems to discredit some accepted uses in Latin and English, not to levy on Greek and other tongues. Of course, we shall have to readjust our critic's "axiom", because, so far as it is relevant, it is based on his mere conception in the particular case; and we can abundantly illustrate, with the aid of our old friend *Hyperbaton*, words and phrases in neighborly intimacy with others that they do not spend their force on, while they do necessarily modify others "over the fence" of punctuation or construction.

Common vernacular instances are "When first" (ut primum), "I certainly think", "I never remember", cf Anab iii 1 3 end, "I do not think", "I think not", "not at all"="altogether not" (Sidney); "only" and "even" (Abbott, *Shak Gram* 420, where is quoted from Nash, "All good things vanish less than in a day"). This example from Nash, and Hooker's famous "Of Law there can be no less acknowledged than that her seat is the bosom of God", can be adequately turned by the construction now discussed.

Latin examples are *deinde*, Verg *Aen* 1 195 (Conington, *ad loc*) Hor *Od* 1 8 1, *per*; Pl *Aul* 268, *vascula propra et elue*: Ter *Ad* 917 *illas ubi et traduce*: Pl *Ep* 563: postquam audivi *ilico* illam esse captam, continuo argentum dedi: Liv 4 44 10, quoted by G 311, N, *causa ipse pro se dicta, damnatur*: Pl *Ep* 606, *exitibilem illi faciam hunc ut fiat diem: and ef quibus poterat sauciis duetis, in (ex) ante diem XV Kal Nov.* Add Pl *Cap* 434: *quone ex templo*, and contrast Ibid 558 *ex templo ubi*, and *Aul* 810: *quis me Athenis magis homo cui di sunt propitii*; and note trajections of *denique*, *vix*, *porro*.

VERA DOUGHTY

Queryville High School, New Haltz, S I

Eduardus Ward

(From the Visitor's Book of the E D H S)

Fuit indole liberali, natura benigna mente pura et integra, vita honesta, memor aliorum, sui neglegens. Totum se in adulescentulis instituendis collocavit, cui rei quaecumque auxilia essent ea non graviora habebat. Ita omnem suam vitam consumpsit, praemium est assecutus, gloria et praedicatione sese extulit. Ab omnibus diligebatur. Ei virtutes se sic immiscuerant ut et alieno gaudio gauderet ac dolore doloret. Humani nihil a se alienum putabat. Eo praeceptore iustitia adulescentulis innata est. Itaque eius sidus lucebit in aeternum in caelo.

The Siege of Troy

(BY A HIGH SCHOOL PUPIL)

Agamemnon felt very much discouraged at the way the siege of Troy was going.

"Our lack of progress", he declared, "is due to our peculiar formation of the genitive case".

"No", said Nestor, "it's because we use the aorist indicative so much in comparisons".

"Well", exclaimed sulky Achilles, "we've been here ten years, and if the college professors haven't material enough for their grammars by this time, I won't make any more long-winded speeches in the optative mood".

The situation was certainly exasperating. The Greeks had consented to remain before Troy no longer than was necessary to establish the correct conjugation of the verb in all its moods and tenses, and to revise, in some degree, the inflection of the other parts of speech. But the Trojans were too wily for them, and, by a dexterous manipulation of the oblique cases of the third personal pronoun (when enclitic), and by putting a noun in apposition after every demonstrative article, and by other Homeric devices, had so protracted the siege that it threatened to be in full swing long after the boys had come up from the preparatory schools for the entrance examinations of the universities. There was also jealousy among the heroes, who accused one another of playing to the classical scholars in speeches designed for quotation in grammars and lexicons.

The climax came when Chryseis, daughter of a priest of Apollo, had been captured on one of the marauding expeditions of the Greeks, and given to Agamemnon. The captive's aged father came into camp, bearing the fillets of Apollo as his official insignia, and begged to be allowed to make a speech. This request was granted, but the old priest left all his second aorist subjunctives uncontracted in the passive, whereupon Achilles washed his hands of Greek. He was a man of imperative mood and active voice.

"Singular person" I commented Nestor. "What have the troops had this morning?"

"Participles", replied Agamemnon. "They declined them first". "I hear some complaint about the verb", said Nestor, "and I don't wonder. It opens out like a telescope, and then breaks up into little pieces. When you put it together, there is always a participle left, that you don't know what to do with".

"Shy it at the Trojans", suggested Agamemnon.

"Can't lay hold of it", replied Nestor, "It has a liquid stem".

"I'm afraid", said Agamemnon, "that we'll never get through with this Trojan siege unless we use a pony".

"A pony?"

"Yes, a pony. Don't you know what a pony is?"

"No".

"A handy literal translation. We'll trick the Trojans with it".

The device proved tremendously successful. The pony was a wooden affair, and the Trojans took it for a horse. So did the college professors, whose classes to this very day finish the siege of Troy with the surreptitious use of a pony—a wooden one at that.—Harvey.

Fifth Meeting of the New York Latin Club

Professor Harry Thurston Peck has kindly consented to address the Latin Club at its next meeting. The time, place and subject will be announced in the next issue.